



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 430

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 506

Senate, April 2, 2015

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. MAYNARD of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF DRIVE-ONLY LICENSES FOR PURPOSES OF VOTER REGISTRATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-36m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

3 (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Primary proof of identity" means documentation indicating the
5 identity of an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license in the
6 form of (A) a valid foreign passport issued by an applicant's country of
7 citizenship that is unexpired or expired for less than three years before
8 an application for such motor vehicle operator's license, (B) a valid,
9 unexpired consular identification document issued by an applicant's
10 country of citizenship, or (C) a consular report of an applicant's birth in
11 a foreign country.

12 (2) "Secondary proof of identity" means documentation indicating

13 the identity of an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license in the
14 form of (A) a valid, unexpired motor vehicle operator's license, with
15 security features, issued by another state or country, (B) a valid foreign
16 voter registration card, (C) a certified copy of a marriage certificate
17 issued by any state or territory of the United States, or any political
18 subdivision thereof, including any county, city or town, (D) a certified
19 school transcript, or (E) a baptismal certificate or any similar
20 document.

21 (3) "Proof of residency" means a piece of mail or electronic mail that
22 includes an applicant's name and address, indicates that such
23 applicant resides in the state and is dated, unless otherwise indicated,
24 not earlier than ninety days before an application for a motor vehicle
25 operator's license, from any two of the following sources: (A) A bill
26 from a bank or mortgage company, utility company, credit card
27 company, doctor or hospital, (B) a bank statement or bank transaction
28 receipt showing the bank's name and mailing address, (C) a preprinted
29 pay stub, (D) a property or excise tax bill dated not earlier than twelve
30 months before such application, (E) an annual benefits summary
31 statement from the Social Security Administration or other pension or
32 retirement plan dated not earlier than twelve months before such
33 application, (F) a Medicaid or Medicare benefit statement, (G) a current
34 homeowner's insurance or renter's insurance policy or motor vehicle
35 insurance card or policy dated not earlier than twelve months before
36 such application, (H) a residential mortgage or similar loan contract,
37 lease or rental contract showing signatures from all parties needed to
38 execute the agreement dated not earlier than twelve months before
39 such application, (I) any postmarked mail, (J) a change of address
40 confirmation from the United States Postal Service indicating an
41 applicant's current and prior address, (K) a survey of an applicant's
42 real property issued by a licensed surveyor, or (L) any official school
43 records showing enrollment.

44 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any
45 regulation, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall not decline to
46 issue a motor vehicle operator's license to any applicant who meets the

47 licensure requirements provided in section 14-36 but who cannot
48 establish that he or she is legally present in the United States or does
49 not have a Social Security number if such applicant (A) submits proof
50 of residency in the state, (B) submits either two forms of primary proof
51 of identity or one form of primary proof of identity and one form of
52 secondary proof of identity, and (C) files an affidavit with the
53 commissioner attesting that such applicant has filed an application to
54 legalize his or her immigration status or will file such an application as
55 soon as he or she is eligible to do so. Any form of primary proof of
56 identity, secondary proof of identity or proof of residency submitted to
57 the commissioner that is in a language other than English shall be
58 accompanied by a certified English translation of such document
59 prepared by a translator approved by the commissioner.

60 (2) The commissioner shall not issue a motor vehicle operator's
61 license under this section to any applicant who has been convicted of
62 any felony in Connecticut.

63 (3) The commissioner shall administer a knowledge test to any such
64 applicant after such applicant has submitted proof of residency and
65 proof of identity that satisfy the requirements of this section. Not later
66 than thirty days after such applicant has passed such knowledge test,
67 the commissioner shall determine whether such applicant has been
68 convicted of any felony in Connecticut by searching the electronic
69 criminal record system maintained on the Internet web site of the
70 Judicial Department for convictions matching such applicant's name
71 and date of birth. If such applicant has not been convicted of any such
72 felony, the commissioner shall mail the applicant an adult instruction
73 permit or youth instruction permit. The commissioner shall not refund
74 the application fee of any applicant who fails a knowledge test or has
75 been convicted of any such felony.

76 (c) Any motor vehicle operator's license issued pursuant to this
77 section shall include an indication on such license that such license
78 shall not be acceptable for federal identification purposes.

79 (d) Any motor vehicle operator's license issued under this section

80 shall expire from three to six years after the date of issuance and may
 81 be renewed every three years thereafter. The commissioner shall not
 82 renew any such operator's license unless the holder of such operator's
 83 license makes personal appearance and demonstrates proof of
 84 residency at the time of renewal.

85 (e) No motor vehicle operator's license issued pursuant to this
 86 section shall be used as identification for voting purposes. The
 87 commissioner shall provide information to all registrars of voters on
 88 identifying such operator's licenses.

89 (f) The commissioner shall place a restriction on each motor vehicle
 90 operator's license issued pursuant to this section, indicating that such
 91 motor vehicle operator's license is "for driving purposes only", and
 92 shall use distinctive numbering or lettering as part of the operator's
 93 license number, to enable easy identification of such operator's license.

94 (g) The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with
 95 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2015	14-36m

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Motor Vehicle Dept.	TF - Potential Cost	up to \$50,000	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None**Explanation**

The bill requires “drive only” licenses to have a distinct license number that is different from a regular motor vehicle driver’s license and is anticipated to result in a cost of up to \$50,000 to the Department of Motor Vehicles for reprogramming costs and the issuance of new “drive only” licenses.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 506*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF DRIVE-ONLY LICENSES FOR PURPOSES OF VOTER REGISTRATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires (1) that “drive only” licenses have distinctive numbering or lettering as part of their license number to make them easy to identify and (2) the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) commissioner to provide information on identifying them to registrars of voters. By law, these licenses must carry a restriction on them indicating that they can be used only for driving purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

BACKGROUND***Drive Only Licenses***

PA 13-89, codified as CGS § 14-36m, requires the commissioner to issue driver's licenses for driving purposes only to individuals who cannot provide DMV with proof of legal U.S. residence or a Social Security number. The license only allows the license holder to drive; he or she cannot use it for federal identification purposes (e.g., boarding a plane) or as proof of identity to vote. DMV refers to these licenses as “drive only” licenses.

Related Bill

HB 6366, reported favorably by the Transportation Committee, requires DMV to accept, as one form of secondary proof of identity for a “drive only” license, an original birth certificate with a raised seal issued by a foreign country.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 6 (03/18/2015)